

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

- 1        1. A software application framework comprising:
  - 2            a framework interface domain for interfacing a platform domain with application
  - 3            domain software of an application domain;
  - 4            a software application domain comprising a first application entity; and
  - 5            wherein the first application entity is adapted to interact with at least one of:
    - 6              a second application entity;
    - 7              the framework interface domain;
    - 8              at least one utility entity; and
    - 9              at least one plug-in entity.

1           2.     The software application framework of claim 1, wherein the application  
2     domain further comprises:  
3                 the at least one utility entity;  
4                 the at least one plug-in entity;  
5                 wherein at least one of the at least one utility entity is adapted to use at least  
6     one of:  
7                     the framework interface domain;  
8                     at least one of:  
9                             the first application entity;  
10                             the second application entity; and  
11                             a third application entity;  
12                     at least one of the at least one plug-in entity; and  
13                     at least one of the at least one utility entity; and  
14                 wherein the at least one plug-in entity is adapted to use the framework  
15     interface domain.

1           3.     The software application framework of claim 2, wherein the plug-in entity is  
2     adapted to extend the functionality of the platform domain.

1           4.     The software application framework of claim 2, wherein the plug-in entity is  
2     adapted to appear to be a part of the framework interface domain.

1           5.     The software application framework of claim 2, wherein the utility entity is  
2     adapted to buffer and shield legacy code.

1           6.     The software application framework of claim 2, wherein the application entity  
2     is adapted to own at least one thread.

1           7.     The software application framework of claim 6, wherein the at least one  
2     thread is automatically created upon start-up of the application entity.

1           8.     The software application of claim 7, wherein at least one of the following  
2     comprises encapsulated code:

3           the first application entity;  
4           the second application entity;  
5           the third application entity;  
6           the at least one of the at least one plug-in entity; and  
7           the at least one of the at least one utility entity.

1           9.     The software application framework of claim 1, wherein the software  
2     application framework is resident on a mobile equipment.

1           10.     The software application framework of claim 1, wherein:  
2                 the software application framework uses a dual-mode message-exchange procedure;  
3         and  
4                 the procedure comprises use of procedure(stack-based handling and  
5         message/serialization-based handling.

1           11.     The software application framework of claim 1, wherein the application  
2         domain minimizes a need for support code.

1           12. A method of using a software application framework, the method comprising:  
2           interfacing a platform domain with application domain software of an application  
3           domain via a framework interface domain; and  
4           a first application entity of the application domain interacting with at least one of a  
5           second application entity, the framework interface domain, at least one utility entity, and at  
6           least one plug-in entity.

1           13. The method of claim 12, wherein the application domain further comprises the  
2           at least one utility entity and the at least one plug-in entity, the method further comprising:  
3           at least one of the at least one utility entity using at least one of:  
4           the framework interface domain;  
5           at least one of the first application entity, the second application entity, and a  
6           third application entity;  
7           at least one of the at least one plug-in entity; and  
8           at least one of the at least one utility entity; and  
9           the at least one plug-in entity using the framework interface domain.

1           14. The method of claim 13, wherein the plug-in entity extends the functionality  
2           of the platform domain.

1           15. The method of claim 13, wherein the plug-in entity appears to be a part of the  
2           framework interface domain.

1           16. The method of claim 13, wherein the utility entity buffers and shields legacy  
2 code.

1           17. The method of claim 13, wherein the application entity owns at least one  
2 thread.

1           18. The method of claim 17, wherein the at least one thread is automatically  
2 created upon start-up of the application entity.

1           19. The method of claim 18, wherein at least one of the following comprises  
2 encapsulated code:

3           the first application entity;  
4           the second application entity;  
5           the third application entity;  
6           the at least one of the at least one plug-in entity; and  
7           the at least one of the at least one utility entity.

1           20. The method of claim 12, wherein the software application framework is  
2 resident on a mobile equipment.

1           21.   The method of claim 12, further comprising:  
2           using, by the software application framework, of a dual-mode message-exchange  
3       procedure; and  
4           wherein the procedure comprises use of procedure/stack-based handling and  
5       message/serialization-based handling.

1           22.   The method of claim 12, wherein the application domain minimizes a need for  
2       support code.